

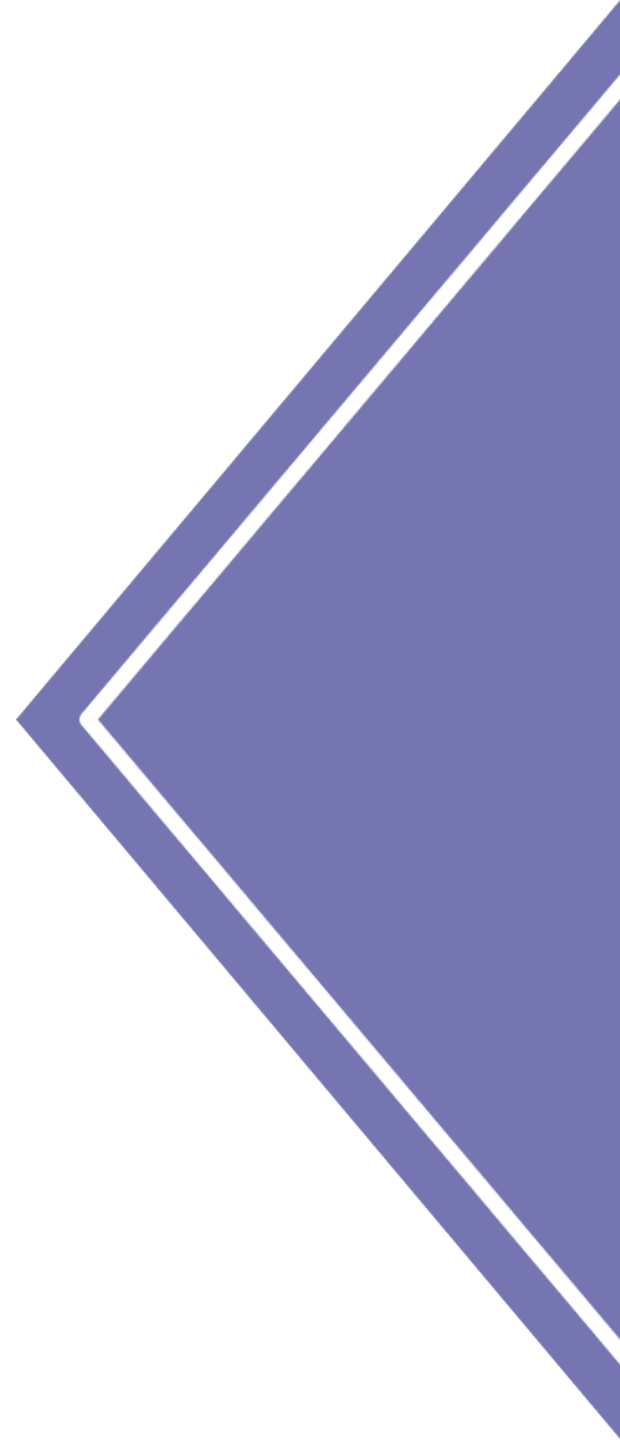
Pastors' Views on Moral Failure

Survey of American Protestant Pastors

Methodology

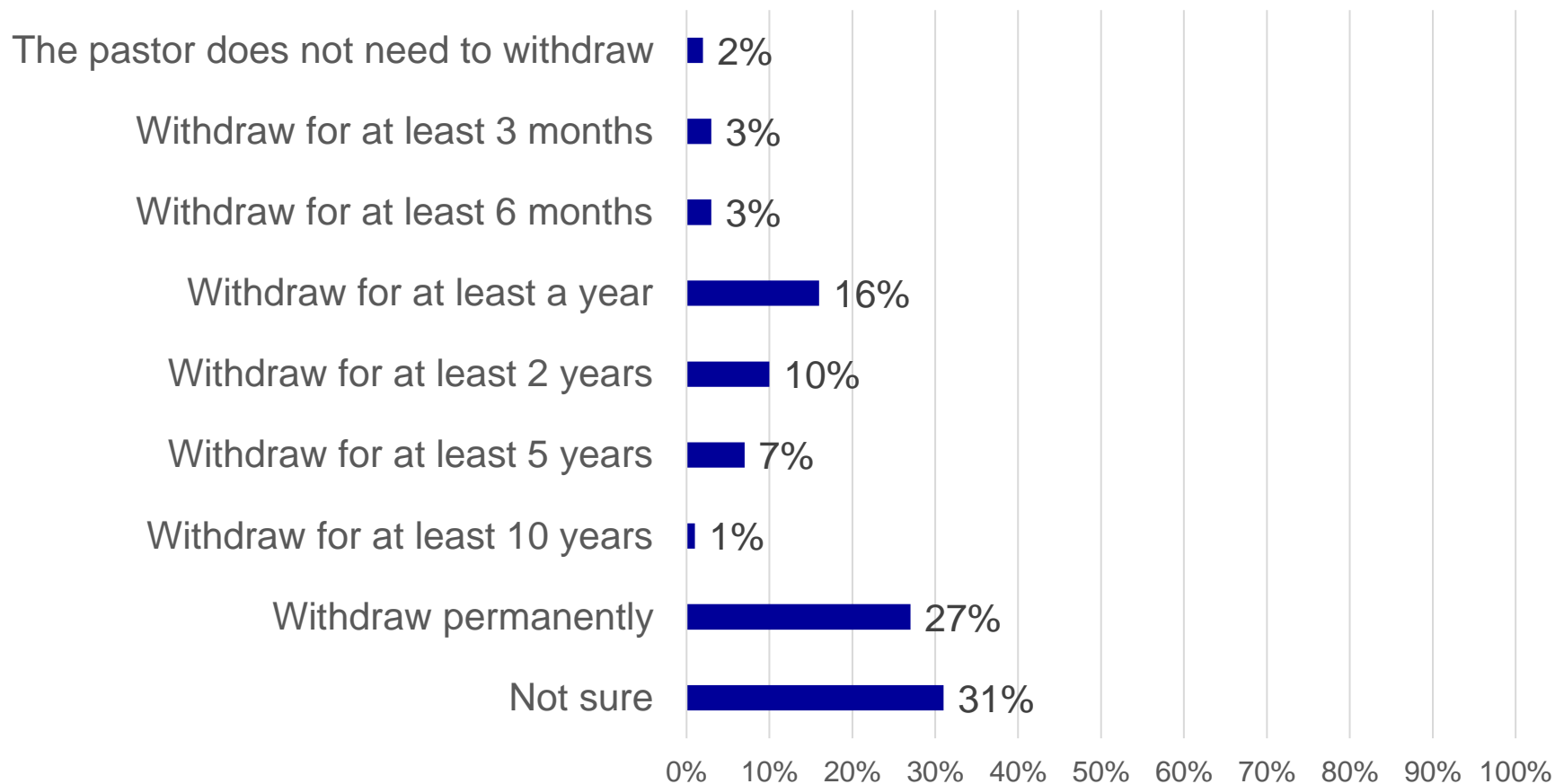
- The phone survey of 1,000 Protestant pastors was conducted August 30 -- September 24, 2019
- The calling list was a stratified random sample, drawn from a list of all Protestant churches. Quotas were used for church size
- Each interview was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest of the church called
- Responses were weighted by region to more accurately reflect the population
- The completed sample is 1,000 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed $\pm 3.3\%$
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

Survey Responses



27% say that a pastor who commits adultery should withdraw from public ministry permanently

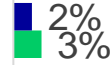
Among Protestant Pastors



Comparison: 2020 v. 2016 results

Among Protestant Pastors

The pastor does not need to withdraw



Withdraw for at least 3 months



Withdraw for at least 6 months



Withdraw for at least a year



Withdraw for at least 2 years



Withdraw for at least 5 years



Withdraw for at least 10 years



Withdraw permanently



Not sure



0% 20% 40%

60%

80%

100%

■ 2020 ■ 2016

Significant Differences

Pastor

Ethnicity

Age

Gender

Education Level

Self-identified Evangelical/Mainline

Church

Region

Denomination

Average Attendance

Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the pastor's ethnicity, age, gender, education, and self-identified Evangelical or Mainline.

Ethnicity	Age	Gender	Education	Self-Identified
White	18-44	Male	No College Degree	Evangelical
African-American	45-54	Female	Bachelor's Degree	Mainline
Other Ethnicity	55-64		Master's Degree	
	65+		Doctoral Degree	

Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the church's region, denomination, and attendance.

Region	Denomination	Attendance
Northeast	Baptist	0-49
South	Lutheran	50-99
Midwest	Methodist	100-249
West	Pentecostal	250+
	Presbyterian/Reformed	
	Christian/ Church of Christ	

“If a pastor commits adultery, how long, if at all, should the pastor withdraw from public ministry?”

- African American pastors are the least likely to select “Withdraw permanently” (8%)
- Pastors with a Bachelor’s degree (34%) are more likely to select “Withdraw permanently” than those with a Master’s degree (27%) or a Doctoral degree (22%)
- Pentecostals are the most likely to select “Withdraw for at least a year” (35%) and least likely to select “Withdraw permanently” (6%)
- Methodists (7%) are more likely to select “The pastor does not need to withdraw from public ministry” than Baptists (1%), Lutherans (1%), Pentecostals (<1%), and Christian/Church of Christ (<1%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 50-99 (31%) are more likely to select “Withdraw permanently” than those with attendance of 100-249 (23%)

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